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Celebrating High School Grads: Special pages inside

Making waves

Lachlan Faraday paddles the Gull River for the Whitewater Ontario Summer Series Race No. 1 at the Minden Whitewater Preserve on Saturday July 13. See more photos on page 18. /TIM YANO Special to the *Times*

Lynda Litwin elected as Minden Rotary president

by **THOMAS SMITH**
Editor

Lynda Litwin's commitment to the Rotary Club of Minden is approaching almost 20 years of service.

"I moved to the Minden area full time in 2005. I wanted to join a service club and give back," explains Lynda Litwin, president of Minden Rotary Club. "My daughter did the Rotary Exchange and spent a year in Finland, so I thought that I should give back."

"I grew up in a small town and knew of Rotary's work in the community. I saw signs around and knew that it would make sense that when I were to join a service club, that it would be Rotary."

Litwin has been president of Minden Rotary Club twice in the past, from 2016 to 2017 and then 2021 to 2022.

"Rotary can do a lot of things that some

see NEW page 2

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P4P adds 20 housing units to its inventory

by JAMES MATTHEWS
Times Staff

Places for People (P4P) has acquired its newest property on Haliburton's Main Street.

It's an eight-unit property that currently houses 12 people. And Fay Martin, the vice-president at P4P, said she's well aware of what those residents might feel toward the change in ownership.

"I have in my heart what this place means to these people," she said. "They won't be dumped on the side of the road. They will continue to be able to live where they've lived, many of them for several years, and at affordable rates."

Quite simply, that's what Places for People does, Martin said.

From the website: P4P creates and manages quality affordable rental housing in Haliburton County and fosters an environment in which tenants can thrive. The organization is built on the conviction that society thrives when everyone has a place where they belong.

Haliburton County has traditionally vied with Manitoulin Island for the dubious distinction of being the poorest jurisdiction in Ontario, according to Statistics Canada.

The latest acquisition illustrates P4P's progress in ensuring the availability of affordable housing for people who live and work in the area.

Dysart Councillor Pat Casey, a local business owner, offered the property to P4P at a reasonable price before he put it on the open market. It would've been very attractive to upscale developers, Martin said.

She said in a press release that Casey has always understood the necessity of housing for workers, including his own, which is why the rent rates that P4P inherited with this property are indeed affordable by community standards.

Haliburton needs a range of housing options from tiny homes to suitable options for young families, large families, seniors and individuals. And Casey would like to see different housing options available so people can transition from one type to the next as their situations change.

"People should not have to worry about where they will sleep tonight and they should have the ability to be self-sufficient and contribute to their community," Casey said. "Times are tight right now and, for me corporately and personally, if we do have some money to spread around to help somebody get the next leg up and get started, to me it's a moral responsibility for mankind. It's just good for society as a whole to contribute."

With the latest addition to the housing portfolio, P4P manages six properties with 20 residential units. The group also has its first commercial rental offering which has the potential to be a revenue stream for the organization.

Through the support of the community over the summer 2023 Community Bond Raise of $850,000, P4P was able to consolidate its debt, allowing unencumbered properties to be leveraged to purchase this new property.

According to Martin, these bonds are crucial elements in meeting P4P's financial needs and to support their philosophy of empowering the community to use local resources to meet local needs.

Haliburton County Development Corporation, a longtime P4P supporter, helped with the property acquisition. Kawartha Credit Union has also stepped up, marking the first time a mainstream bank has invested in P4P.

P4P is becoming known across the county and further abroad as a leader in how to move the needle on making housing a priority for everyone. They have housed over 100 people: 32 families including 47 adults and 56 children.

"We have gotten to where we are almost exclusively using local resources to address a local challenge," Martin said. "These newly acquired tenants are all people who live and work in our community. We are inheriting incredibly affordable rents which is very difficult to maintain because we don't have the deep pockets of developers."

P4P's growth depends on the continued generosity of people who support us. Consider making a donation to Places For People to help them settle in this new acquisition and prepare themselves for the next challenge.

Go to placesforpeople.ca/home#donate or email P4P at info@placesforpeople.ca.

New president shakes up the format

from page 1

people in the public might think is a municipal responsibility but the municipality has to follow a bunch of guidelines," says Litwin. "They have a lot of insurance issues. There are things that the service can do that the municipality can't."

The Minden Rotary Club has been responsible for adding benches throughout town, improvements to the village green, bathrooms at Rotary Park, and a garden shed to support the community garden.

"The organization can work in a great partnership with the municipality. They can do what is legislated from Queen's Park and Rotary can pick up the slack, which the community can blossom and benefit from," said Litwin.

Litwin's favourite aspects about being a Rotarian include the fellowship and what she calls her Rotary family.

"It's the joy, the laughter, the sharing, the emotional connection and supportiveness of each other," said Litwin. "When somebody comes in and you have not seen them in a while, it is so nice to see them again."

Litwin has big shoes to fill, replacing the previous Rotary President Dave Woodcroft.

"He is just amazing. He is just such a positive, upbeat person. Everyone that sits in the seat as president, brings something unique to that job. Dave came in with lots of enthusiasm, lots of willingness to get in and get things done. He wanted to shine things that needed to have shine on them. It has been fantastic working with him."

Litwin has big plans for the Minden Rotary Club this year.

"We are starting off with a huge step in that we are changing our weekly format. We will see how it is received, how many people like it. That is pretty huge and it will change up our whole format."

"We used to meet on a weekly basis, although I have changed this up. Rotary used to be a mandatory weekly meeting, but it has been switched up," said Litwin. Meetings remain on Mondays, but mandatory meetings have changed to a biweekly schedule, with Mondays that follow the mandatory meeting being social ones.

"It will hopefully satisfy all the members that do not like having meetings every week and for the social ones, they can come to the social nights on the alternating Mondays," said Litwin.

One of Litwin's favourite events is the fundraising auction that takes place in June.

"Everybody showing up at the auction was giving each other hugs and saying it is so good to see you. Some people only see each other at the dinner auction."

Litwin says that this year, she hopes to increase members of the club.

"We have the Friends of Rotary and the Friends of Rotary list to let people know if they want to come in and watch a guest speaker. There are a lot of people that want to support Rotary but don't necessarily want to join Rotary," said Litwin.

Litwin also says that she is very excited for the holiday auction that will be taking place during the holiday season. Currently, the Minden Rotary Club is asking that any volunteers that wish to lend a hand for the online auction, to please do so as soon as possible.

A great leader must be conscious of the strengths and weaknesses of their team. Litwin is no stranger to this concept and while they have had new members, she is doing her best to ensure that they do not overburden themselves. She is committed to supporting her fellow Rotarians and completing their goals.

Some people choose to support the Rotary Club through volunteering as a Rotary Clown and supporting events such as their auctions, and RotaryFest.

RotaryFest is on Saturday August 17 and will take place in downtown Minden from Water Street to Newcastle Street.

"It is the third annual RotaryFest. Dave has changed up the format and location. It has been moved to downtown minden. All of the merchants downtown have been 100 per cent on board in making that move," said Litwin. "So far we have lots of vendors coming out and we are encouraging lots of service clubs to come out and talk to the community."

Some of the service clubs that will be attending RotaryFest include the Curling Club, Figure Skating Club, Girl Guides, and Scouts. Litwin says that they will all have the opportunity to showcase their programming that happens in the fall and winter. The Red Wolves, Minden Cultural Centre, and Minden Community Food Centre will also be attending.

Boshkung Brewing is organizing food and live musicians. Dennis Pennie is also organizing an event for kids to paint and race wooden cars on a track. The Dominion Hotel will be offering a shaded area for people wanting to listen to the musicians. The Rotary Club is also currently trying to source a dunk tank. The merchants of Minden will be putting on a red carpet fashion show.

"We hope we get so many people to show up and we just want people to come out and celebrate it," said Litwin. "It's gonna be a blast, it's gonna be a great party. I hope that everyone shows up and enjoys themselves."

"I just hope that we have a good turnout. We've put a lot of effort into this, a lot of time and a lot of money. We just need a good turnout."

"It is all about making our community better," said Litwin.

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Long-awaited HHHS CT scanner now in operation

by **VIVIAN COLLINGS**
Times Staff

From left, Scott Ovenden Chief Regional Officer, East and Toronto Regions, Ontario Health, Melanie Klodt Wong executive director of the HHHS Foundation, Veronica Nelson HHHS president and CEO, Laurie Scott Member of Provincial Parliament for Haliburton, Kawartha Lakes, Brock, Sylvia Jones Deputy Premier and Health Minister of Ontario, and Irene Odell chair of the HHHS board of directors stand with HHHS' new CT scanner. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) can now offer CT scans to patients right down the hall from the emergency room in the Haliburton hospital.

Construction is finished, and the scanner has been operational for a week, taking up to seven patients a day.

"To say that team and I are excited about this moment in our HHHS and community history would be a serious understatement," said Veronica Nelson, HHHS president and CEO.

Nelson started her health care career in diagnostic imaging as an X-Ray technician.

"Seeing this program begin 20 years ago and now come to life while I am president and CEO is a real pinch-me moment," she said.

The CT scanner began taking patients on Tuesday, July 9.

"I remember when the application for the CT scanner first came in, and now it's here and working which is just amazing," said Irene Odell, HHHS board of directors chair. "We're really looking forward to increasing the health care that we provide to this community because it's a pretty incredible place."

Nelson thanked the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation staff and board for their fundraising efforts to bring the scanner to the Highlands.

"We're all working together to optimize health and well-being in Haliburton County," Nelson said. "This is a monumental goal."

The CT scanner will be able to take 6,000 patients a year.

"We'll be able to reduce wait times for our patients, and we'll be able to keep ambulances local to service our community," Nelson said.

Haliburton County Paramedics spent more than 2,000 hours transferring patients out of county for CT scans alone.

"This symbolizes commitment to advancing health care in our region. It couldn't have been made possible without all of the collaborative efforts and support of many individuals and organizations," said MPP for Haliburton - Kawartha Lakes - Brock Laurie Scott.

Among those in attendance were Deputy Premier and Health Minister of Ontario Sylvia Jones and Scott Ovenden, Chief Regional Officer for East and Toronto Regions of Ontario Health.

"When I look at what you have been able to accomplish as a community, it has been a challenging time. The fact that you focused on things that were going to make a direct impact on patient care - it couldn't happen without committed donors and committed staff, so congratulations," Jones said.

HHHS is also set to receive a mammography unit by the end of this year.

"I'm particularly excited about the mammography," Jones said. "We're changing and increasing access for women who are 40 and above who would like to self-refer. Having that access in your community is going to help make their decision much easier."

The hospital's bone density scanner will also be moved next door.

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COUNCIL MEETINGS VIRTUAL & IN-PERSON

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted with a hybrid model of in-person (Council Chambers, 7 Milne St., Minden) and electronic participation in accordance with the Municipal Act. Meetings begin at 9:00 am unless otherwise noted. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

- **July 25 – Regular Council Meeting**
- **August 8 – Regular Council Meeting**

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or via the live-stream link on the Township CivicWeb Portal at https://mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx. Visit our website for more information.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

We are currently seeking energetic and highly motivated individuals for the following positions:

- Operator for Community Services (casual position)
- Customer Service Representative (casual position)
- Recreation Coordinator

Please visit our website at www.mindenhills.ca/careers/ for a complete list of available positions and how to apply.

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MINDEN HILLS Cultural Centre

MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL CENTRE

- The Agnes Jamieson Gallery is pleased to welcome back artist Michèle Karch-Ackerman with her new exhibit *Flower Orphanage*. The exhibit is on display until August 17. The Gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm. Visit the online calendar for more info.
- The Minden Hills Museum, Heritage Village and Nature's Place are open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm. Join us for daily tours and drop-in program: Learn a new language in the *Multilingual Schoolhouse* on Wed. July 17 at 11 am, *Tie-Dye* on Thurs. July 18 at 11 am and make ice cream at the *Friday Creamery* on Friday, July 19 at 2 pm. Visit our website at https://www.mindenhills.ca/en/News/media-release-24-50-programs-and-activities-at-the-minden-hills-cultural-centre-july-2024.aspx for a full list of daily programs.
- In partnership with the Haliburton County Public library, the documentary *Lay Down Your Heart* (2022) will be screened on Thursday, July 18 at 5 pm. This documentary explores the life of Niall McNeil, an artist and theatre performer with Down syndrome, and his richly imaginative world. The screening is made possible through the support of the National Film Board. Admission is free and pre-registration is not required.
- Attention all crafters! The UFO Group is returning to the Minden Hills Cultural Centre on Friday, July 19 from 1-3 pm. Bring a beverage, a snack and your unfinished project to work on.
- Visit with the Turtle Guardians and their shelled friends at the MHCC on Saturday, July 20 from 12-2 pm. Admission is free and pre-registration is not required.
- For more information on all the programs and exhibits at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre: email culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca or call 705-286-3763.

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Salad days of summer

From left, Vincent and Justin Stapleton enjoy the vintage airplanes at the Stanhope Summer Fly-In on Saturday July 13. /THOMAS SMITH Staff

Cathy Mack and Carrie Martin pause for a photo will grilling burgers for the Fly-In.

Bert Horton stands by his 1965 Chevrolet El Camino, 1967 Chevrolet Chevy II/ Nova, and 1953 Ford Customline at the Stanhope Summer Fly-In.

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The new fitness room in the Dorset Recreation Centre. /Submitted

The Dorset Recreation Centre underwent extensive construction and will be open again to the public on July 27 during a grand re-opening ceremony. /Submitted

Dorset Recreation Centre to host grand re-opening

by **VIVIAN COLLINGS**
Times Staff

The Dorset Recreation Centre welcomes the community to a re-opening celebration on July 27 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. following large-scale rehabilitation of the building.

Changes include new walls, flooring, plumbing and electrical systems, LED lighting, ventilation system, fitness room, lobby area, accessible washroom, and parking area.

"We are so pleased to welcome everyone to what is going to be a great community celebration and a big day for Dorset," said Algonquin Highlands Mayor Liz Danielsen. "We know what a beloved community asset the Dorset Recreation Centre is and would like to thank residents for their patience throughout this extensive project. We know folks will be excited to get back into the building and use the facilities that have always meant so much to us all."

Danielsen also thanked the Gonneau Group, the company hired for the complete rehabilitation project.

The Dorset Recreation Centre also now houses the Dorset branch of the Haliburton County Public Library (HCPL) in the lower level.

"This will offer the same services and programming as other branches of the HCPL," read an Algonquin Highlands press release.

The grand opening will feature children's activities and live music by local band Adverse Conditions.

Speeches will be made and a catered lunch provided.

"The day will also include the official opening ceremony of Tapscott Lopes Park, previously known as the Dorset Pavilion and Community Park, on Main Street," says the press release.

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InOtherWords

Columns and Letters to the Editor

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Garden of the flies

IT HAS come to my attention that fruit and vegetables are too expensive.

So, as a cost saving venture, I have decided to dig up the front lawn and plant a garden. This decision was clearly made on an earlier, cooler day before the recent heat warnings and humidity indexes.

As a redhead, I must apply several inches of sunscreen that is rated at spf 100+ to survive. For 15 minutes at a time I can venture out, dig a hole or two, then run back inside to the air conditioning and my jug of ice water. It is a simple ratio of 15 minutes working, then 30 minutes passed out on the living room floor, if I can make it that far.

THOMAS SMITH
Editor

Unlike *Dune*, I fortunately do not have to worry about any Shai-Hulud eating me. What I do have to worry about is a very persistent groundhog. You see, previous years I have tried to evict this groundhog from the premises by throwing spicy chilies into its den, cat hair to fool it into thinking there are predators nearby, and by filling in the hole. Much to my dismay, these tactics from previous years seem to have not been a permanent solution. The groundhog is back, packed on a few pounds, and sees my cost-saving garden as an all-you-can-eat-buffet.

The raspberries that surround my property also seem to have dissappeared, due to Japanese beetles. I swear, if I hear the groundhog say 'itadakimasu,' I'll know that they have teamed up in the War for Tom's Yard.

These beetles, *Polillia japonica* come from Japan where there is a variety of predators that manage their population. These predators include birds that eat their grubs, spiders, assassin bugs, and the tachinid fly. One particular tachinid, *Istocheta aldrichi* is a parasitic fly that lays eggs on Japanese beetles. As the larvae emerge, they eat the beetle from the inside out. This variety of parasitic pest control has been recently implemented on vineyards and farms in North America.

Japanese beetles were first found in Canada in 1939 and have become a massive economical and agricultural pest in Canada.

For visitors to the wonderful Haliburton County, invasive species such as fish, crayfish, mussels, clams, and plants can be spread through the smallest amount of water or piece of vegetation. These species are spread through ballast water, bait fish, and the side of watercraft. Always make sure that your watercraft has been cleaned, drained, and dried before bringing it into our waters.

While I may not be able to survive in the heat, many invasive species are highly adaptable and will ruin the ecosystem in our waterways.

Now, I must go back to war in the fight for fresh produce. A foolish venture, as my money seems to go right into the groundhog's mouth.

At least it's kinda cute.

The original virtual assistant.

Thunderstruck

THOSE OF us who have spent a little time camping at backwoods sites in provincial or federal parks are quite familiar with the lowly, but all-important thunderbox.

For those who have never had the pleasure, permit me to describe one.

A thunderbox is literally the bottom half of an outhouse. I am guessing they used to be full outhouses before departmental budget cuts.

Right now, however your average thunderbox is basically an outhouse bench with a toilet seat that is set over a, hopefully, deep enough pit. Where it parts ways with the full outhouse is that it has no walls or roof. So, when you sit on this rustic throne you can survey your kingdom. Which, ironically enough, puts you in a contradictory situation – you're admiring nature while, at the same time, crapping on it.

STEVE GALEA
Beyond 35

Then again, if you think about it, that's always been humanity's relationship with nature.

You should also know that a visit to the thunderbox is one of the very few BYOTP (bring your own toilet paper) affairs the average person is going to experience – unless, of course, you don't mind repurposing leaves.

Also, if it is raining hard enough and you position yourself just right, you've can make use of a primitive bidet.

There's not much more to the thunderbox than that – at least physically.

Psychologically, however, it's a whole different story.

Those new to thunderboxing are at first a little nervous and perhaps even taken aback by the lack of privacy. If it's any consolation, passing animals feel the same way.

The good news is the average thunderbox is situated well out of sight from yours or anyone else's campsite. Usually there is a long, direct, and well-trodden trail to it. And you can give thanks to those who said, "I think I'll just drink the water straight out of this beaver pond", for most of the work done on that.

I'm not sure a thunderbox qualifies to be the subject of a Heritage Canada commercial – unless you shoot it from the waist up – but I do feel that the using a thunderbox is practically a Canadian rite of passage, and therefore worthy of being put on at least one of our postage stamps.

There really is nothing like sitting on an old, weathered plywood box in the middle of the woods with your pants at your ankles to make a person feel alive – especially if you just saw the world's biggest spider scurry into the hole. (The way to think about that situation is that that spider is soon going to be more horrified than you are.)

Finally, the thunderbox is one of those places where each of us must go alone. I'm not saying its like a vision quest or anything. With vision quests, you hallucinate. With thunderboxes that only happens if you ate spicy foods and there is no breeze.

Nevertheless, a visit to the thunderbox is a very personal thing, and we all bring to the experience what we feel is appropriate. It can be a quiet and meditative affair. It can be a business as usual without any thought put to it at all.

Most back country adventurers have a different point of view, especially after three or four days of camp food. That's why they bring the thunder.

InOtherWords

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Pizza, glue, and AI nonsense

A FEW WEEKS ago, I attended a virtual conference on misinformation and disinformation. It was held by the Ontario Library and Information Technology Association, and included speakers from MediaSmarts, the Canadian Centre for Cybersecurity, Media Matters, among many others concerned with how misinformation and disinformation are shaping our world.

Misinformation is inaccurate information that is shared without the intention to cause harm. The person sharing it believes the information to be true. Disinformation is inaccurate information that is shared intentionally to cause harm. The person sharing it knows what they are sharing isn't true and are usually reaping some kind of benefit by spreading it.

Neither disinformation nor misinformation are new, but of course the world wide web and social media have made both easy to spread at a large scale. A subject that kept coming up at the conference was how Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the latest technological innovation that can promote the spread of inaccurate information.

ERIN KERNOHAN-BERNING
Humans and Technology

AI uses large sets of data to create mathematical models that essentially answers the question of "If a user puts in this prompt, what is the most likely order of things to make an accepted reply." Those things can be words in the case of AI like ChatGPT, or pixels in the case of AI image generators like Dall-E or Midjourney. AI doesn't understand the concepts behind the output its giving, only that statistically speaking the answer will be accepted by the user.

One problem that AI brings with respect to misinformation and disinformation is that both are already baked into its training data. Earlier this year, Google made a $60 million deal with Reddit to make that platform's content available to train its AI. For some time, users have appended "reddit" to Google searches to find better quality information as sponsored links and SEO driven content farms have risen in rank. This would allow users to come upon a (hopefully) helpful Reddit post, which would then lead to more websites to help answer whatever questions the user had. Google scraping Reddit for information to train its AI seems like a natural fit, at least on the surface.

The problem is that on Reddit, like on much of the internet, anyone can post anything. Sure, posts are subject to moderation, but the quality of that moderation varies depending on what section (called a subreddit) that post is on. There's also a proud tradition of posting non-serious things to Reddit. In May, a user reported that when they posed the question of how to make cheese stick to pizza, Google's AI generated snippet suggested adding Elmer's white glue to the cheese mix. This was traced back to an 11-year-old Reddit post clearly made as a joke. But because AI doesn't know anything it also doesn't know what jokes are.

This is a fun and humorous example, because hopefully not too many out there would seriously believe they should put glue on their pizza. At least I hope not. However, it is concerning when Google, the world's most accessed search engine and place where many go for answers to their questions, is creating a product that can ultimately amplify inaccurate information on a massive scale. Now imagine this situation but for disinformation created intentionally to cause harm.

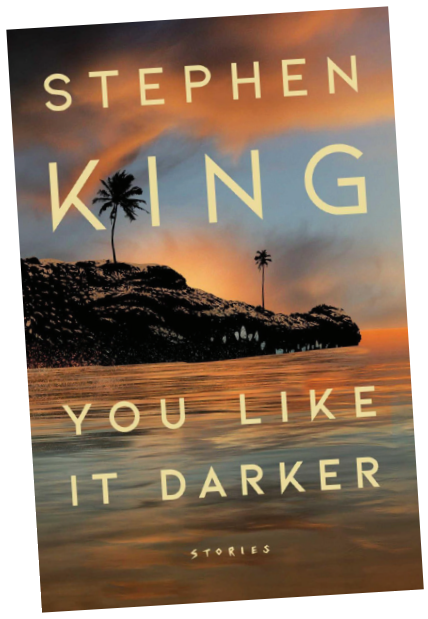
AI can also help spread false information through things like fake images and videos. AI generated images and videos try to convince the viewer that a real person is doing or saying something they are not. Spotting these as fakes can be difficult, but often there is some kind of tell; a piece of architecture that doesn't look correct (AI doesn't understand how things like chairs work), or strangely rendered hands (sometimes extra fingers or not enough), or how the subject's mouth moves while speaking (if it seems uncanny, it's worth further investigation). The important thing to remember about these fakes is that the subject hasn't provided consent for their likeness being used, so not only is the fake being made to fool you it's also victimizing the person whose face is being used for nefarious purposes.

Probably the scariest consequence when it comes to AI and the propagation of disinformation is that if we're so busy trying to determine if something is fake, it's easy for us to start distrusting accurate and reliable information. AI can undermine our shared perception of what is trustworthy and what is not. If we can't agree fundamentally on what makes information reliable, our foundation for understanding our world and one another begins to crumble. Developing discernment so that we can separate true from false and reliable from unreliable is already a crucial social skill and will continue to be in the future.

Minden Memories

The Main Street was thriving in the 1950s with key establishments. On the right side of the street, one could see the Pioneer Grill, the Hewitt Garage, and a drug store. On the left, there was an Imperial Gas station and possibly Roger's or Welch's hardware store. The Dominion Hotel and its veranda were also visible further down the street. /Photo courtesy of the Minden Hills Cultural Centre

HCPL's Book of the Week

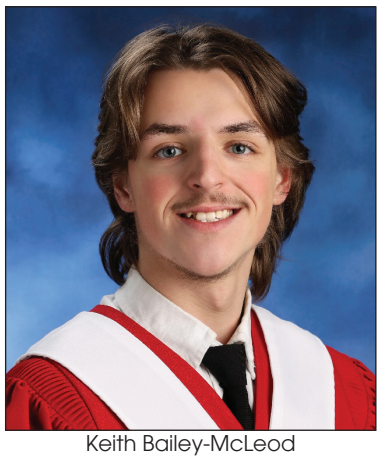


A new collection of twelve never-before-published stories that delve into the darker part of life—both metaphorical and literal. King has, for half a century, been a master of the form, and these stories, about fate, mortality, luck, and the folds in reality where anything can happen, are as rich and riveting as his novels, both weighty in theme and a huge pleasure to read. King's ability to surprise, amaze, and bring us both terror and solace remains unsurpassed. Each of these stories holds its own thrills, joys, and mysteries; each feels iconic. You like it darker? You got it.

You Like It Darker by Stephen King is available to borrow from the Haliburton County Public Library.

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School Graduates

Riley Allore

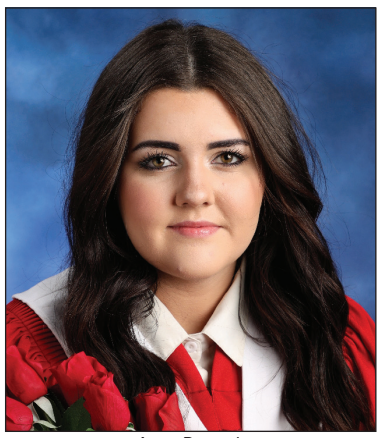

Keith Bailey-McLeod

Veronica Beynon

Brody Bolger

Austin Boyle

Damian Briand


Ava Bucek

William Burke

Kara Chumbley

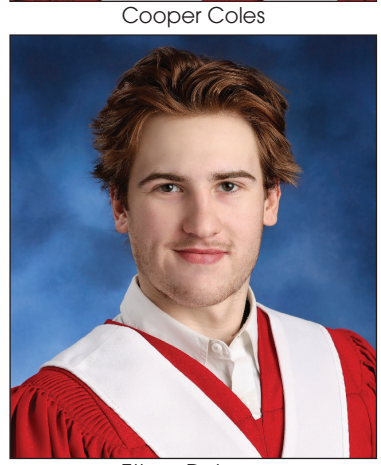
Cooper Coles

Taylor Consack

Jamie Crowe

Avery Degeer

Tommy Deterling


Ethan Dobson

Dustin Douglas

Evan Durepos

Haillie Embury

Racheal Fischer

Sophia Gervais

Congratulations Graduates 2024!

We wish you all the best today, and the best of luck in every future endeavor!

- Mike & Tanya Boisvert

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Darren Willmott

Kiara Harnois

Nathan Harrison

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Izzy Hill

Kamryn Holden

Justin Horner

Carmen Horner-Xerri

Taylor Horsley

Paige Hough

Gabriel Humphrey

Olivia Humphries

Macie Hunter

Sienna Inglis

Aidan Jones

Cheyenne Lagace

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Abi Lewis

Emmett Litman

Kaelem Little

Sophia MacPhee

Laren Main

Lily Manning

Marley Mariani

Ceinwyn Mathura

Aleyah McGovern

Samuel McMahon

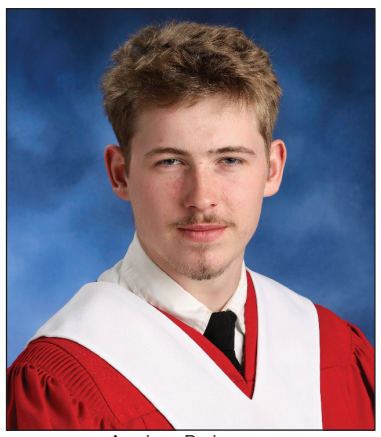
Sarah Mee

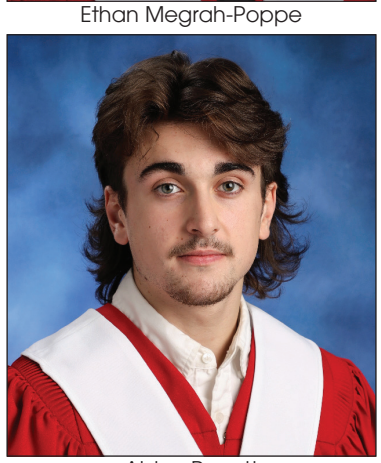
Ethan Megrah-Poppe

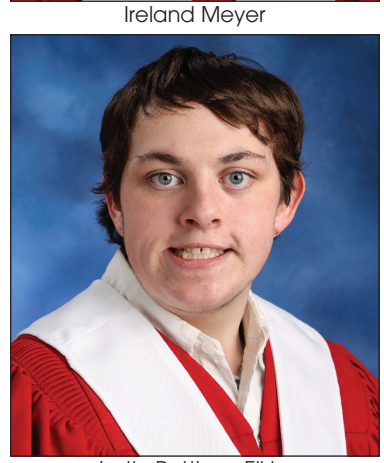
Ireland Meyer

Sofie Mills

Charlotte Moynes


Austen Paterson


Aiden Perrott


Justin Pettipas-Elkins

Kaydan Reid

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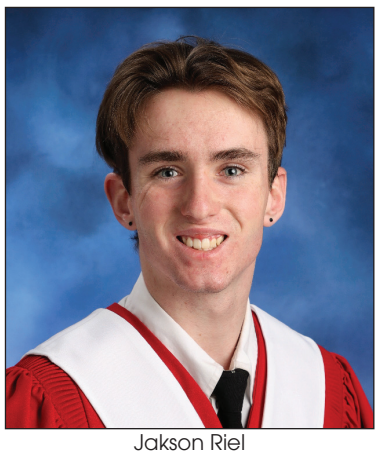

Jakson Riel

Jake Sawchuk

Sofia Scott

Carson Simms

Mikayla Sisson

Baylie Stover

Macy Thompson

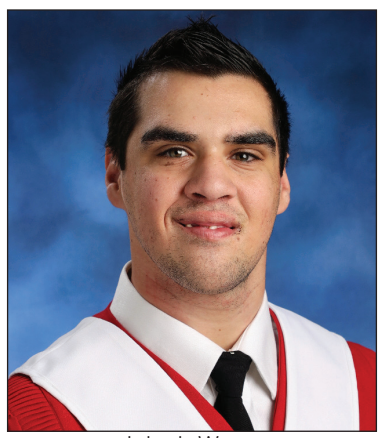
Allie Todd

Declan Tribble

Logan Tripp

Rowan Trumble

Evelyn Vanderstarre

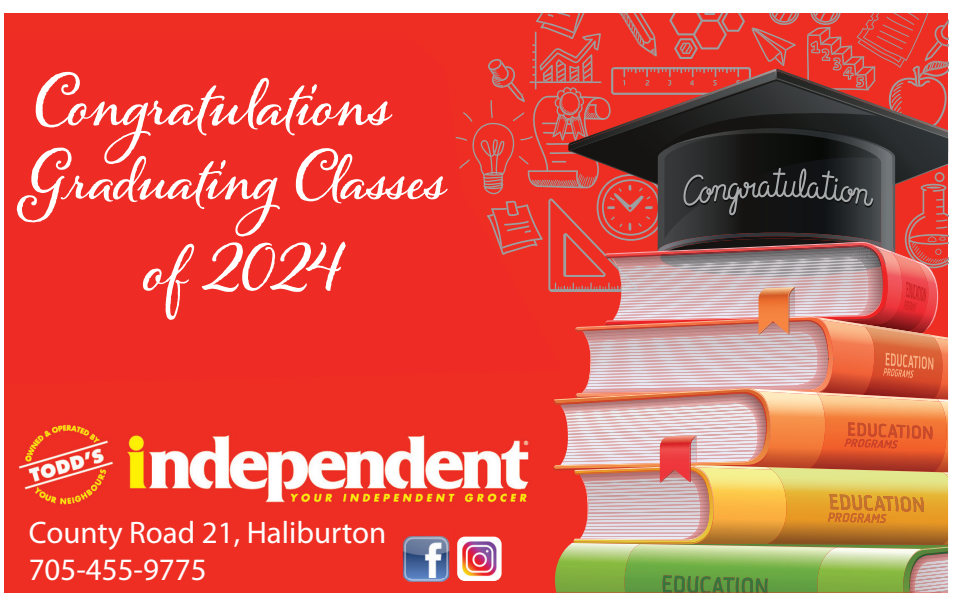

Jaicob Wagg

Alex Warford

Autumn Winder

HHSS graduates (no photo)

Sawyer Boutin
Mim Buwalda
Devonte Casey-Palmer
Todd Collins
Dakota DeSousa
Nathan Eden
Ryan Ellis
Hendrik Haase
Tess Husbands
Colin Knight
Brody Steele



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Highland Hills United Church still needs support

by THOMAS SMITH
Editor

Joan Chapple pushes Fred Chapple into the lift while Brian Austen holds open the door. /Submitted

Fred sits in the chair with Max Ward Senior standing nearby and Reverend Max Ward (aka Max Junior) at the controls in the back.

"It's been ongoing for years but we just never had the funds to do it. So we've been talking about doing it for a long time," said Rev. Max Ward. "I remember way back, the Ontario Disability Act came out and that is when we really started talking seriously about this. It took a long time."

The Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act was enacted in 2005. The goal of the act was to make businesses accessible to all by 2025. Smaller businesses that have 20 or less employees do not need to follow it. Some businesses must still comply with the Accessible Canada Act with accessibility requirements for businesses with 10 or more employees.

"I think everyone should try their best to be accessible," said Rev. Ward.

The Highland Hills United Church began raising funds for their lift around two years ago. In the summer of 2023, they increased their efforts in fundraising. The church partnered with Mulligan's Pub and Patio, located at the Gull River Golf Course. Customers were able to purchase their meal and have a portion of the proceeds go to the Highland Hills United Church. Molly's Market and Bakery also sold a $20 card, where the church received a portion of the sale price.

"We had a Lift Us Up Concert with the musician Drew Allen," said Rev. Ward.

"Many of our members have mobility issues," said Rev. Ward. "Maybe five to 10 people use the lift, some people still choose to use the stairs. It is still new to us so we are getting used to it," said Rev. Ward.

"The lift is not only for their Sunday congregation, but to have it available to use during rentals, said Rev. Ward. "Say there is a concert held up here, then people can more feasible get downstairs to where the washrooms are. It is not only for church, but for all kinds of events."

$80,000 was the budgeted price for the accessibility lift. This price included the installation, labour, and price of the equipment. The Highland Hills United Church has raised over $23,000 towards their goal, but needs continued support to meet the full $80,000.

"The Board here decided that even before we started fundraising, we are going to try and fundraise, but we are not going to purchase the lift once we get the money," explained Rev. Ward. "We decided to put the lift in and raise money as we go. The rest came out of our reserves."

"People get a sense of belonging and get to know their neighbours and become friends. It is a way to explore their faith," said Rev. Ward.

Church attendees are an aging demographic, with each year having less attendees. With an aging demographic, accessibility at the Highland Hills United Church was deemed a necessity.

"It's not just this area, but the United Church of Canada and other denominations too," said Rev. Ward. "It's been in decline since the sixties, very gradually. It hasn't leveled out or picked up yet."

Highland Hills United Church is the product of the amalgamation of Zion United Church which used to be located in Carnarvon, with the Minden United Church. The two congregations amalgamated and changed their name to Highland Hills United Church.

"We raised our family here. When we moved here, our first born was on the way, so it is home," said Rev. Ward. "I really love the small town atmosphere of this community and how it takes a lot of volunteers to make it a better place. People step up and do it. We may not have all the nice things that the city has, but we also have some things that the city doesn't like: access to the lake, the woods, less traffic, less noise. The things people come here to see."

Rev. Max Ward would like to thank the Lift Committee for their support in getting the lift installed at Highland Hills United Church. The Lift Committee includes Bruce McClennan, Neil Darby, and Erskine Flook.

In addition to their Sunday services, many community groups and businesses use the church's space. Some of these groups include a yoga group, the Agricultural Society, Environment Canada, Friends of the Cultural Centre, Girl Guides, and the Festival Singers.

The Highland Hills United Church is available to be rented for a wide variety of events including birthdays, anniversaries, funerals, memorials, and parties.

Earlier this year, a 'No Bake Sale' involved their congregation donating money like they would at a bake sale, but with no baked goods in return. A real bake sale is coming up on July 27 and will be from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

> "We may not have all the nice things that the city has, but we also have some things that the city doesn't like: access to the lake, the woods, less traffic, less noise. The things people come here to see."
>
> —REV. MAX WARD, HIGHLAND HILLS UNITED CHURCH

The Highland Hills United Church will also have a pastry baking workshop on Sept. 5 and 19.

Water Street dock and Riverwalk notice

The Township of Minden Hills advises that the Water Street Dock is closed currently due to high water levels. Also, the Riverwalk has large sections submerged in water, and the Township recommends avoiding these areas. If you must use these areas, you are advised to use extreme caution.

For questions regarding the Water Street Dock and Riverwalk, please contact the Community Services Department at 705-286-1260 x 551. For more information, visit the Township of Minden Hills website at www.minden-hills.ca.

Submitted

Keeping track of history

Janet Trull presents 'Railroad Days in Haliburton County' at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre on Thursday, July 11. /TIM YANO Special to the *Times*

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THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SMALL BUSINESS

County gardener group gets provincial award

by JAMES MATTHEWS
Times Staff

The Haliburton County Master Gardeners harvested kudos for their contributions to horticulture in the region.

The Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA) selected the group of local gardeners to be recipients of the 2024 Environment Award.

In a press release, the OHA said the Haliburton County contingent was recognized for an outstanding contribution in the advancement of horticulture with the development and launch of the Stepping into Nature multi-media walking tour along the Minden Riverwalk Trail.

This award was announced at the OHA's annual general meeting in Guelph on July 13.

"The Stepping into Nature self-guided tour extolls the benefits of a natural landscape along a previously degraded section of river in the village of Minden and is a valuable addition to this popular walking trail," said Carolyn Langdon, the Haliburton County Master Gardeners' coordinator.

"It was a very ambitious project for a small group of volunteers, so we are particularly honoured by the attention and the award from the OHA."

Langdon and Merryn Camphausen travelled to the OHA convention in Guelph to accept the award.

"Stepping into Nature is a free, self-guided walking tour of the remarkable flora and fauna along the Minden Riverwalk trail," said Shelley Fellows, the project lead. "It was an ambitious project including 21 site signs, photos, detailed descriptions of plants, insect information and gardening tips, along with audio stories."

From left, Carolyn Langdon, coordinator for Haliburton County Master Gardeners, Merryn Camphausen, committee member of Haliburton County Master Gardeners and Sharlene Desjardins, president of the Ontario Horticultural Association pose with the 2024 Environment Award. /Submitted

Everything is accessible via a smartphone app called PocketSights and through QR codes on signage throughout the walking tour.

A combination of practical recommendations to address common landscape problems and field research to understand the flowering plants, shrubs, trees and grasses growing along the Minden Riverwalk, the walking tour was supported by a Local Initiatives Program grant from the Haliburton County Development Corporation.

Insect research, including field collections, were performed by a U-Links team headed by Caleb Brown from Trent University.

The Haliburton County Master Gardeners is a community service organization. Members are certified Master Gardeners, with expertise in horticulture, botany and gardening in harmony with nature. They are celebrating 22 years in the Haliburton Highlands.

The group has visited more than 60 properties throughout Haliburton County in the last three years to advise property owners on how best to naturalize their properties.

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Spaghetti Dinner

When: Saturday July 20, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Where: Lloyd Watson Community Centre, 2249 Loop Rd, Wilberforce
Spaghetti Dinner at the Lloyd Watson Community Centre. 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. $12.00 adults, $6.00 children (5-12), kids under 5 eat free. Drop in and have a delicious dinner before the start of the Penny Raffle. A Wilberforce Curling Club Fundraiser.

Gigantic Penny Raffle

When: Saturday July 20, Various times, see below
Where: Lloyd Watson Community Centre, 2249 Loop Rd, Wilberforce
Over 150 prizes to be raffled. Free admission. Open 1 - 3 p.m. to see the prizes and deposit tickets. The arena reopens at 5:30 p.m. with exhibit tables, snack bar, kids' games, face painting, mad hatter table, lots of fun for the whole family. The early bird draws are at 7 p.m. and the gigantic raffle starts at 8pm. For more information or to donate prizes contact Kathy Rogers at 705-448-1285 or WilberforceFunraising@gmail.com.

Amazing Dragonflies
Land Trust Discovery Days

When: Saturday July 20, 10 a.m. – noon
Where: Dahl Forest
Join us for a stroll through beautiful Dahl Forest as we explore the fascinating world of dragonflies and damselflies. We'll have a hands-on close encounter with these wonderful creatures and look in detail at their life history and their contribution to the ecological landscape. Insect repellent or bug jackets highly recommended, and close focus binoculars if you have some. Pre-registration required at www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca. Contact 705-457-3700

Bat Detectives
Land Trust Discovery Days

When: Thursday July 25, 7:30 p.m.
Where: Dahl Forest
All eight species of bats found in Ontario have been identified in Haliburton County. However bat populations are declining for a variety of reasons. We will stroll Dahl Forest at dusk and use special monitors to detect and "hear" bats. Admission by donation. Pre-registration required at www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca. Contact 705-457-3700

Minden & District Horticultural Society Annual General Meeting

When: August 6, 6 p.m.
Where: Minden Community Center, 55 Parkside St.
Note the time change for this meeting. Doors will open at 6 p.m. and the speaker will start at 6:30 p.m. Our guest speaker Carol Pasternak will be discussing 'Raising Monarch Butterflies'. Interested youth are welcome to attend the speaker portion of this meeting. The speaker will be followed by the monthly society meeting. "The Junior Members Program will meet at the Minden Community Center from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. The Junior Members program is for children in Grade 2 or higher that want to explore their interest in all things that grow.

County seeks input on accommodation tax

by **JAMES MATTHEWS**
Times Staff

Public feedback is sought about the new rules governing short-term rentals and its accompanying municipal accommodations tax.

The MAT is to be a visitor levy applied to overnight accommodations, specifically targeting short-term rental stays. This initiative mirrors the practices of numerous municipalities throughout Ontario that have already adopted a MAT program.

The county is in the process of establishing a municipal services corporation to manage revenue generated by the tax.

A service corporation will be established to manage 50 per cent of the revenue collected through the tax. That money will be used for tourism-related initiatives like marketing, promotion, support, and efforts to further develop the industry in Haliburton County.

The new tax will be collected starting Oct. 1.

According to 2023 data, the new MAT could generate as much as $2.2 million across the county.

Haliburton County will launch a survey this month to gather input from residents of the lower tier municipalities regarding how to use the money to be garnered from the new tax. The survey can be found on the county's website.

The county will also host online engagement sessions with tourism stakeholders about the MAT. Sessions will be July 24 at 2 p.m., Aug. 14 at 6 p.m., and Aug. 28 at 2 p.m.

To register to take part in the virtual engagement sessions, contact Angelica Ingram, the county's tourism manager, at aingram@haliburtoncounty.ca

This new municipal services corporation will be the County's Destination Management Organization (DMO). An accompanying five-year destination management plan outlines the county's tourism objectives.

Residents, entrepreneurs, elected officials and other key stakeholders contributed ideas during the plan's development by way of town halls, focus groups, workshops, and 1-on-1 interviews.

As indicated in the tourism management blueprint, the consultations included spirited debate that conveyed the local pride and passion for continually elevating the region's communities as great places to live, work and visit.

The most fundamental theme in tourism development is that people want to visit a destination for the exact same reasons that people want to live in a destination.

Baking away

Isla Legate won the Junior Bakers Award for her "Best Decorated" Red Velvet Valentine's Cookie for the Halls and Hawk Lakes Baking Contest on Saturday July 13. /Submitted

Kristen Smith won the "Anything Chocolate" category for her Happy Holidays creation.

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Twenty years and counting with the *Echo* and *Times*

VIVIAN COLLINGS
Editor

Laura Smith can often be found at various businesses around the county throughout the week, visiting customers that have become friends.

This year marks Smith's 20th year working at the *Haliburton Echo*, *Minden Times*, and *County Life* as a sales representative.

Although many in her generation are itching to retire, Laura doesn't plan to retire anytime soon - a testament to her love for the job and community.

Laura's husband Barry built their current home on Pelaw Lake in the 1980s.

"He always knew he wanted to live up here. It started out as a cottage. We didn't even have a kitchen in this place," she laughed.

Growing up close to the city, Laura wasn't sure if life in a small town would be for her.

They moved to Haliburton full time in 2004.

"As soon as we moved, I fell in love with it. It seems to even get better every single year."

Both Laura and Barry worked in sales at a paper called the Pennysaver in Brampton/Mississauga.

"We worked together for 17 years. Our rule was that when we came home, we had five minutes to talk about work. That was how we were able to have a good work/life balance," Laura said.

She was a nurse for 13 years before becoming a single mom.

Wanting to get away from shift work, she knew some people at the paper that believed in her and hired her in the advertising department.

"It was a challenge, but within a year, I doubled my nursing salary. It opened a whole new avenue of people to get to know, and it was always so fun."

Laura said Barry always subscribed to the *Echo* while cottaging, so they saw the advertising job advertised in the paper.

"It's pretty cute that it happened that way," she said.

Barry ended up taking a job as a delivery driver for the papers a few years later as a retirement hobby.

"He loves it so much too. So many people know him at the locations he delivers to."

Laura said her favourite part of the job has always been the customers and being able to help make their vision come to life.

"I learned the most important thing you can do is listen. It helps you really get to know people."

Laura plans to continue her work in advertising at the Echo for many more years to come.

"I'm not planning on retiring because I'm healthy, happy, and I love my job," she said. "I just want to say thank you so much to the *Echo* and the community for 20 great years."

Laura Smith is celebrating 20 years working as a sales representative with the *Haliburton Echo, Minden Times*, and *County Life* newspapers.

Sudoku brought to you by

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SUDOKU

4	6				2		9	
						4		3
	8		4					
							5	
	2			1	5		8	
	7	1			8		2	
		2						8
6			3					7
7			2				6	9

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 19

"Beer, it's the best damn drink in the world."

Cheers to Jack Nicholson

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LCBO strike continues

by VIVIAN COLLINGS
Times Staff

Nine thousand Liquor Control Board of Ontario (LCBO) employees have been striking since last week with their workers' union.

The Ontario Public Service Employees Union and LCBO have ceased negotiations. Both are willing to start again, but there is one key conflict that the union most concerned about.

Ontario Premier Doug Ford has plans to expand where alcohol, specifically ready to drink cocktails, can be sold in the province such as gas stations and grocery stores.

Union leaders believe this will lead to thousands of jobless LCBO employees in the years to come.

"Currently, we're on strike for a number of reasons. One of them being the elimination of severance pay, unfair wages, and making liquor more convenient to purchase elsewhere. LCBO staff were never consulted. It was a decision the government made on their own," said Guy Alaimo, a local LCBO employee.

"It's threatening a lot of jobs, and there's no transparency."

Alaimo said the offered salary increase was two per cent when they asked for nine per cent to account for inflation.

"We're here to support not just workers, but management as well who aren't in the union. Their jobs will be affected as well if we don't get what we want in this next agreement," Alaimo said.

"We're just standing up for a fair wage. We should be the standard for other retailers to look up to in this department. We should be setting an example."

At this point, Ford is not stepping back from his plans.

The union asked for ready to drink cocktails to stay exclusively sold at LCBO stores, to which Ford said, "If they want to negotiate ready to drink beverages, the deal is off. Let me be very clear, it is done, it is gone. The ship has sailed."

Ford is confident a deal can be reached if the union allows LCBO workers to look at his proposal.

"This is the best day of support we've had. It's clear that we have lots of support from the community," Alaimo said last Monday.

LCBO stores will remained closed until an agreement is reached.

Public warning: Crypto currency scam

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) Cyber-Enabled Fraud Team is assisting in an investment scam investigation where victims are losing hundreds of thousands of dollars in fake crypto currency investments.

Investigators are warning the public not to engage with the following websites:

- www[.]How2Crypto[.]com
- www[.]How2Crypto[.]net

If you or someone you know has had dealings with the mentioned websites, please contact your local police service and the Canadian Anti-Fraud Center at 1-888-495-8501 / antifraudcenter.ca

- Protect yourself:
- Once you send your crypto, it is gone.
- Government agencies do not accept cryptocurrencies.
- Conduct your own due diligence, ask questions and do your research before sending anyone your crypto.

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of Art + Design
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Online auction featuring works by the faculty artists of the Haliburton School of Art + Design
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FLEMING COLLEGE 2024
Check back often – new auction items will be added weekly.
Annika Hoef
flemingcollege.ca/haliburton-art-auction

Keeping afloat

Gryffin Harris takes control during the Whitewater Ontario Summer Series Race No. 1 held at the Minden Whitewater Preserve on Saturday July 13. /TIM YANO Special to the *Times*

Paige Cartwright leans into a turn.

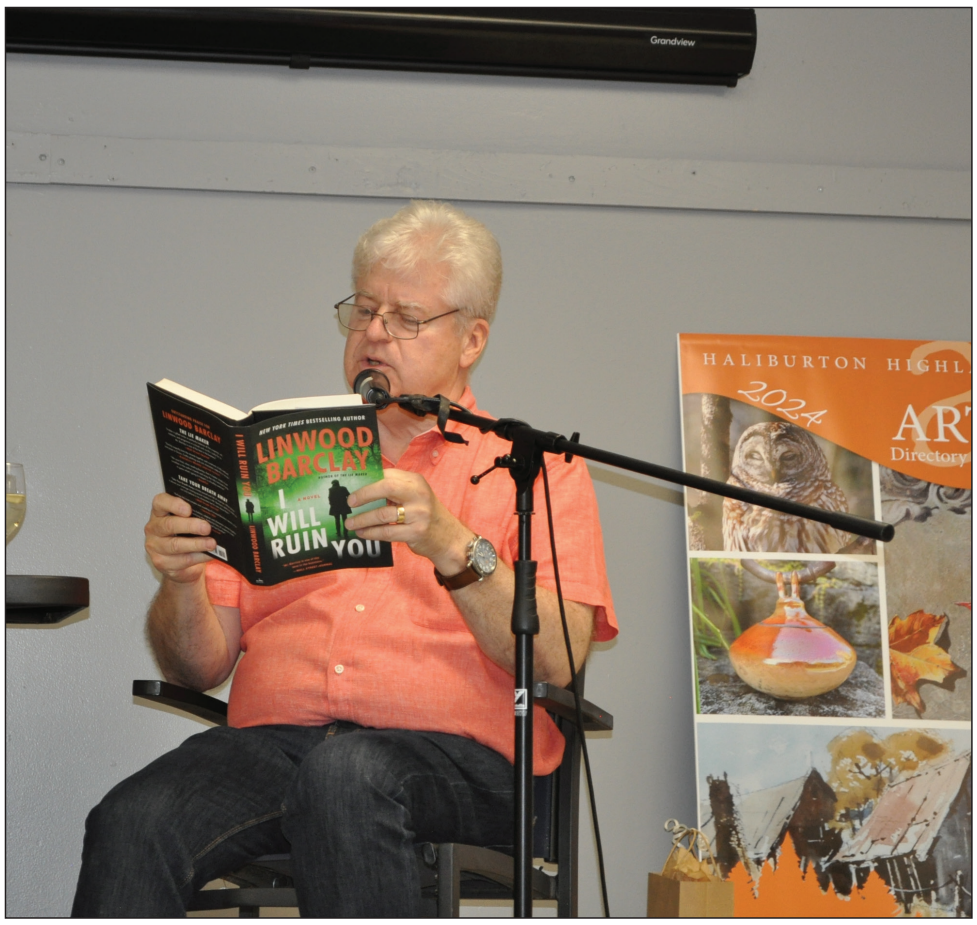
Mason Beaumont paddles hard.

Ethan VanHorne makes a splash.

Helen Adams reflects on a job well done.

Bestselling author Linwood Barclay visits Minden

Linwood Barclay visited Minden's Bookapalooza on Saturday to read a brief excerpt from his latest book *I Will Ruin You.* Ruth Walker and Barclay also discussed his career, writing process, and passions in life. A Q and A followed the talk. Much fun was had by all. Later that evening, an exclusive dinner with Barclay was held at the Dominion Hotel. /THOMAS SMITH Staff



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HALIBURTON COUNTY HUSKIES

The Haliburton County Huskies Junior A Hockey Team are seeking billet families to provide a nurturing environment for our players for the 2024-25 season!

Billet families play an integral part in the success and support of each player.

We ask that our players be welcomed into your home, treated like part of your family, and be provided with basic necessities during the season.

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- 2 complimentary butcher boxes throughout season

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huskieshousing@hotmail.com

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2	5	7	8	9	6	4	1	3
1	8	9	4	5	3	6	7	2
8	9	6	7	2	4	3	5	1
3	2	4	9	1	5	7	8	6
5	7	1	6	3	8	9	2	4
9	4	2	5	6	7	1	3	8
6	1	5	3	8	9	2	4	7
7	3	8	2	4	1	5	6	9

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220 YARD/GARAGE SALES

Huge Home/Yard Sale - **July 20 & 21. 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., 3748 County Road 121.** Furniture, antiques, washer, dryer, freezer, pellet stove, propane stove, fishing/hunting equipment, new windows and doors and much more.

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Wanted: Scrap Metal. Fridges, rims, barbecues- any scrap metal. No Cars. Please call **519-820-5701**

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To apply, or for more information, please contact:
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manager@canoefm.com

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Crafts and quilts. **Saturday July 20th**. Eagle Lake Community Church. **2605 Eagle Lake Road**. Sale starts at 9:30. Cash and e-transfers available.

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The Haliburton County Public Library
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Part-time Position – 28 hours/week

This part-time position is responsible for developing and implementing strategies which increase the community's awareness of and engagement with library services and programs. This position communicates information to internal and external audiences and is responsible for providing administrative support to library staff.

Visit the County of Haliburton's Careers page at www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers for further information, required qualifications, and a detailed job description.

To apply, please email your cover letter and resume in PDF format to info@haliburtonlibrary.ca no later than 4:30pm on Thursday July 25th, 2024.

We thank all who apply for this position. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is committed to an inclusive, barrier-free environment. If you require accommodation options to ensure full and equal access during the recruitment process, please contact our Human Resources Manager, Evelyn Fenwick:
efenwick@haliburtoncounty.ca
705-286-1333 ext 224

In accordance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, the information gathered will be used solely for the purpose of job selection.

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650 OBITUARIES

In Loving Memory of

Caryl Ann Miller

Born April 29, 1942 in Lincoln, UK and died at her home July 15, 2024 in Gelert, Ontario

Born Caryl Ann Banister in Lincoln, UK, Caryl leaves behind her loving and devoted husband Ray Miller, her sons Richard (Frankie) in UK and Daniel (Tammy) in Minden. Her eldest son Andrew died in 2013. She was Grandmother to Colin Hughes (Georgina) in UK, Donna Sellwood (Matthew) in Wales, Shelby Douglas (dec'd), Dustin Douglas in Minden, and Emma Hughes in Thornhill. Proud Great Grandmother to Arya Hughes in Thornhill and Evie and Ada Sellwood in Wales. Caryl is also survived by her sister Helen (Lindy) in the UK.

Caryl was well known in the Haliburton area for her love of theatre. With a group of friends, she founded the Highlands Little Theatre in the early 1970's. In 2001 She, along with other enthusiasts, was instrumental in getting the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion built within the High School. She was an award-winning Director and was also known for her acting; the more well known characters she portrayed were Lady Bracknell (The Importance of Being Earnest), and Madame Arcati (Blithe Spirit). She considered herself a comedienne at heart.

One of her proudest moments was when she received Highlander of the Year in 2007. Gardening was another of Caryl's joys. Her magnificent gardens at her home in Eagle Lake were well known and, after moving to Peterborough, she created another imaginative and beautiful spot in the smaller garden of their bungalow there. She cared very much for those less fortunate than herself. She created many scarves and toques for the homeless as well as volunteering at One Roof Shelter. Caryl was loud, opinionated, generous, forthright, occasionally flamboyant, but always honest. She loved people, animals, reading, and good food.

"All the world's a stage, and all the men and women on it merely players. They have their exits and their entrances and one man in his time plays many parts"

Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427, Minden K0M 2K0 on Thursday, July 18, 2024 from 12:00 o'clock noon until the time of the Service to Celebrate Caryl's Life at 1:00 pm. Interment at Minden Cemetery. Caryl has asked that family and friends come dressed casual in bright colors.

Memorial Donations to the Snowflake Meadows Rescue (by cheque only) would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.

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LOOK INSIDE

Celebrating the art of dance

It was a colourful and lively show as local dance students performed in their annual recital

See page 8

Timbersports returns to Minden

Television coverage will ensure a wide audience for a spectacular event

See page 10 and Second Section insert

In Quotes

"Some people think it's bleeding heart liberal stuff but we've got real power of restitution."

Ernie Hills, page 17

Darren Lum/TIMES

Second World War veterans Ken and Gord Martin in front of the granite monument at St. Stephen's Church that honours local men who who lost their lives in the carnage of the First Wolrd War

It's a matter of respect

Martin brothers restore monument to soldiers

by DARREN LUM
Times staff

Two Second World War veterans are ensuring the remembrance of soldiers who paid the ultimate price paid for freedom with their conviction and their own money.

A year ago the Martin brothers, Gord and Ken, paid more than $2,000 to have a First World War monument located in front of the St. Stephen's Church, rebuilt in granite. It is located on Buckslide Road and honours young men from the area who volunteered and lost their lives during the First World War.

Gord, who landed on Juno beach during the D-Day invasion, served with the 3rd Anti-tank Regiment for Canada and Ken was a Head Nurse with the Medical Corps in England.

"People have no respect for what veterans did. These are First World War veterans. The stone was going to pieces and I could see it needed replacing,"

see WAR *page 2*

$2.9 million expansion planned for airport

by ANDY LLOYD
Times staff

Algonquin Highlands is moving forward with its plans for a $2.9 million expansion of the Stanhope Airport, part of an extensive strategy for major improvements to the county's only airport.

Under the plan, the municipality will construct a new 1,200-metre crosswind runway to the north of the current airport property. It will also expand the airport's apron, the area where the planes are parked. A geographic global positioning guidance system will be installed to allow aircraft to use the airport in low visibility conditions and the existing runway's pavement and lighting systems will also be upgraded.

As part of the project, the airport will be renamed the Haliburton-Algonquin Highlands Municipal Airport.

Top priorities of the project are the new runway, the GPS system and the apron expansion at a cost of $2.37 million. Funding of this part of the project is contingent though on the municipality's efforts to secure $2 million in provincial government backing. Once provincial funding is secured, the strategy calls for a $300,000 commitment from Algonquin Highlands, $60,000 from the county and donations from local organizations .

The municipality also needs to acquire a large tract of private land adjacent to the airport, on which the new runway will be built. The cost of the land has already been factored in to the total project estimates.

The remaining $550,000 of the $2.9 million is for what the strategy calls secondary development, which includes improvements to existing airport facilities.

John Packer, airport manager,

see EMERGENCY *page 4*

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